

## Heavy Crop Losses Seen In Upper End of State

*Impossible to Plant Vegetables, Tomato Plants  
and Potatoes Refuse to Grow, Possible Short-  
age of Water Result of Prolonged Drought*

Drought conditions in the northern end of Delaware, particularly in Brandywine hundred, where there is mostly clay soil, are becoming serious, and many truck farmers and gardeners have practically abandoned hope of being able to raise any garden crops.

The worst feature of the drought, farmers complain, is that the dry spell coming unusually early in the season, has made it impossible to plant carrots, parsnips, beets, lettuce and other small seed. Tomato plants, early potatoes, beans and second crop peas are almost at a standstill. Early sweet corn, field corn and early cabbage plants, which got an early start and are high enough for light cultivation, have not suffered much as yet, but even these plants are sadly in need of rain.

Vegetation of all kinds is withering from the sultry blasts. With the exception of early strawberries, this crop is practically a total loss in the drought area. Other small fruits, such as raspberries, blackberries, wine berries, currants and grapes are threatened.

Many young fruit and shade trees set out this spring have withered and died. A number of seeding dogwood trees, planted along the roadways in Ardentown in the spring, after leafing out, are almost a total loss.

Cherries are more plentiful than for several seasons, but apples, pears, plums, peaches and other fruits are falling from the trees, and in many instances the foliage of the trees is turning yellow.

So far the drought has had little effect on wells and springs, but rural communities and farmers fear that unless there is a heavy rainfall soon, there will be a repetition of the conditions which followed last year's long dry spell, as the character of the soil and rock substrata in the northern part of the state prevents the wells and springs from being affected by anything but prolonged rainfall.

Many farmers who usually expect cuttings of hay, predict that they will be unable to harvest a second crop as the hot, dry weather is killing out the grass and clover.

## Drought kills Ardentown's first dogwoods

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